

## **II. Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

Please cancel claims 19, 32 and 38-42.

1. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9.
2. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule consisting of a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9.
3. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence which is at least 60% identical to a nucleotide sequence selected from the group consisting of SEQ ID NOS:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, and 9.
4. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
5. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:5.
6. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

7. (Withdrawn) A nucleic acid molecule encoding a polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.

8. (Withdrawn) An isolated nucleic acid molecule that hybridizes to a nucleic acid molecule comprising SEQ ID NOS:1, 3, 4, 6, 7, or 9, or a complement thereof, under stringent conditions.

9. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

10. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

11. (Withdrawn) A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.

12. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2 further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

13. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 2 further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

14. (Withdrawn) A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 2.

15. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 further comprising vector nucleic acid sequences.

16. (Withdrawn) The nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 further comprising nucleic acid sequences encoding a heterologous polypeptide.

17. (Withdrawn) A host cell which contains the nucleic acid molecule of claim 3.
18. (Withdrawn) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Withdrawn) An isolated polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:8.
21. (Withdrawn) An antibody which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 20.
22. (Withdrawn) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising culturing the host cell of claim 11, 14, or 17 under conditions in which the nucleic acid molecule is expressed.
23. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the presence of a polypeptide of claim 20 in a sample, comprising:
  - a) contacting the sample with a compound which selectively binds to a polypeptide of claim 8; and
  - b) determining whether the compound binds to the polypeptide in the sample.
24. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the compound which binds to the polypeptide is an antibody.
25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 23, wherein the sample is a sample suspected of being an endometrial stromal tumor.
26. (Withdrawn) A method for detecting the presence of a nucleic acid molecule of claim 3 in a sample, comprising the steps of:

a) contacting the sample with a nucleic acid probe or primer which selectively hybridizes to the nucleic acid molecule; and

b) determining whether the nucleic acid probe or primer binds to a nucleic acid molecule in the sample.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the sample comprises mRNA molecules and is contacted with a nucleic acid probe.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26, wherein the sample is a sample suspected of being an endometrial stromal tumor.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a compound which binds to a polypeptide of claim 20 comprising the steps of:

a) contacting a polypeptide, or a cell expressing a polypeptide of claim 8 with a test compound; and

b) determining whether the polypeptide binds to the test compound.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 29, wherein the binding of the test compound to the polypeptide is detected by a method selected from the group consisting of:

a) detection of binding by direct detecting of test compound/polypeptide binding; or

b) detection of binding using a competition binding assay.

31. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying a compound which controls proliferation of endometrial stroma comprising the steps of:

a) expressing jjaz in the presence of the compound, and

b) determining whether the compound affects expression of jjaz.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Amended) An isolated [The] JAZ polypeptide of claim 32 in which said having a sequence that polypeptide is substantially identical to the amino acid sequence shown in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:8.

34. (Amended) The JAZ polypeptide of claim 32 in which said polypeptide is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule having a nucleotide sequence which hybridizes under stringent hybridization conditions to a nucleic acid molecule comprising the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO: 1, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:9, said stringent hybridization conditions being 6X sodium chloride/sodium citrate (SSC) at about 45°C, followed by at least one wash in 0.2X SSC, 0.1% SDS at 50°C.

35. (Amended) A ~~[The]~~ JAZ polypeptide of claim 32 in which said polypeptide ~~comprises~~ comprising a sequence that is 100% identical with a continuous portion of a ~~reference sequence selected from SEQ ID NO[8]:[2, 5, and]~~ 8, said portion being at least ~~[30%]~~ 80% of said ~~[complete reference sequence]~~ SEQ ID NO:8.

36. (Withdrawn) The JAZ polypeptide of claim 32 in which said polypeptide differs from SEQ ID NO:8 by at least one but less than 20% of the residues in SEQ ID NO:8.

37. (Withdrawn) The JAZ polypeptide of claim 32 in which said polypeptide includes an amino acid sequence at least about 50% homologous to SEQ ID NO:8.

38-42 Cancelled.